

Abraham Lincoln papers

From Charles Chiniquy to Abraham Lincoln [With Endorsement by Lincoln]¹, June 10, 1864

¹ No reply from Lincoln to this letter has been located.

Washington 10th June

1864

My dear Mr Lincoln

It was my privilege, yesterday, to bless you in the name of ten thousand French Canadians settled in our Colony of Illinois.

To day, I approach you to offer you a new opportunity of doing one of the things you like the more, and by which your life has been fitted; "a good action".

In the Providence of God, I have brought some six hundred families of my Countrymen from the errors of Rome, to the knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus-Christ. Now, I am trying to give to the Children of those converts the best possible Christian & American education, and I have founded a College: "The Saviour's College" where about 130 boys & girls are taught to serve their God & love their Country.

But, alone, I can not meet all the expenses of that new Institution. Our Presbytery have advised me to make an appeal to our Freinds in Washington. The eminent services you have already rendered me, give me, surely, the privilege of looking to you as to our first & noblest Freind.

It is then to you that we go first to get some help for the education of that colony which had already sent more than 150 men to the defense of the Country, 12 of them have shed their blood on the battle fields of the West.

For God's sake, My dear Mr Lincoln, do receive with your usual kindness, my humble request

and Believe me

Your most devoted

Servant

C. Chiniquy

My residence in Washington is

58th Missouri Avenue.

[Endorsed by Lincoln:]

Father Chiniqui—